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(54) **CONTROL METHOD, CONTROL DEVICE,
AND PROCESSOR IN SOFTWARE DEFINED
NETWORK**

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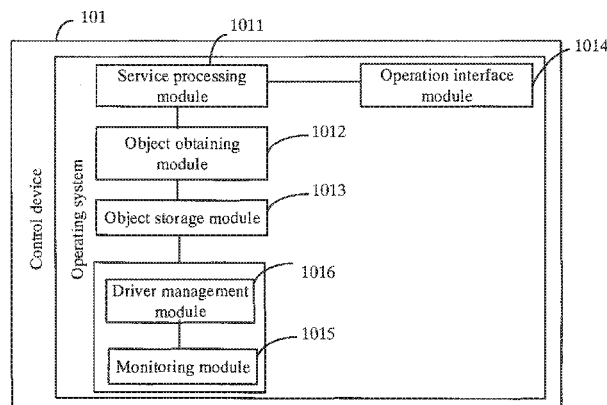
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A control method, a control device, and a processor in a
software defined network (SDN). In the control method, the
control device, and the processor in the SDN provided by the
embodiments of the present invention, location information
of a network device registered in another control device in
the SDN is obtained, so that a remote object proxy of the
network device can be established according to the location
information, and the network device is controlled using the
remote object proxy. Therefore, it is unnecessary to send a
control or operation request to device objects of all network
devices in other control devices, thereby avoiding a step that
the device objects of all the network devices in the other
control devices receive a service control request and perform
determining, and improving service processing perfor-
mance.

15 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



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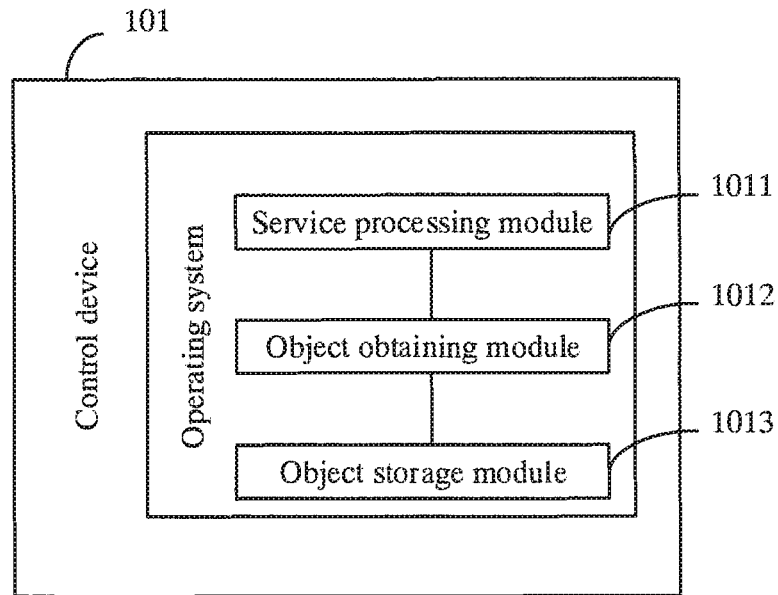


FIG. 1

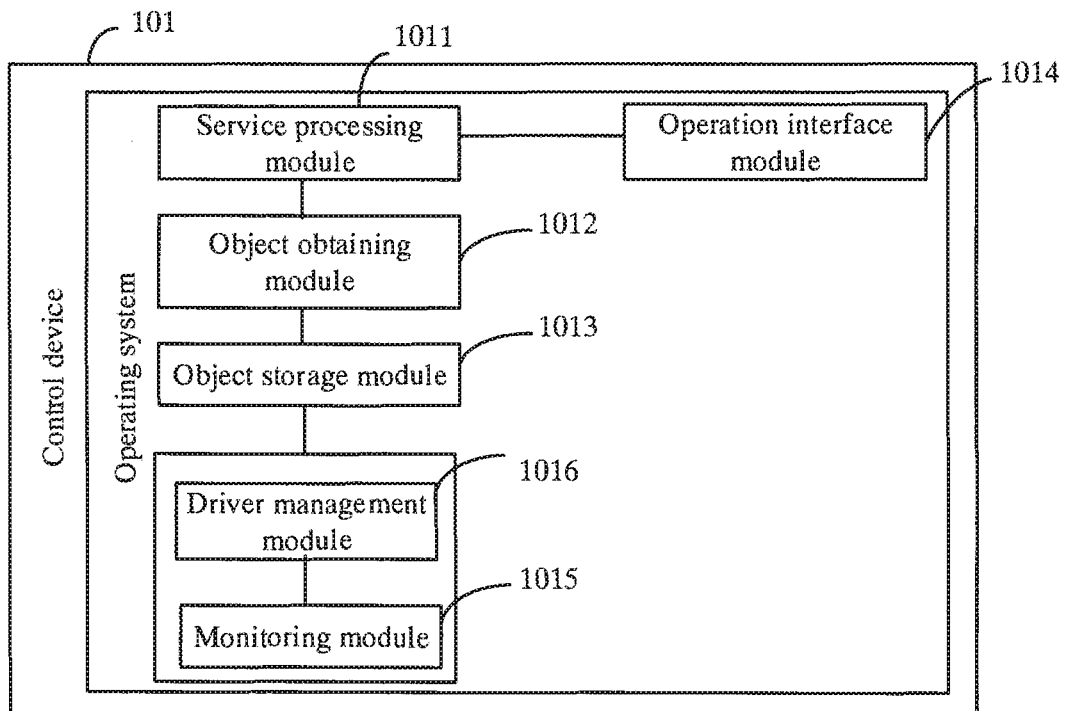


FIG. 2

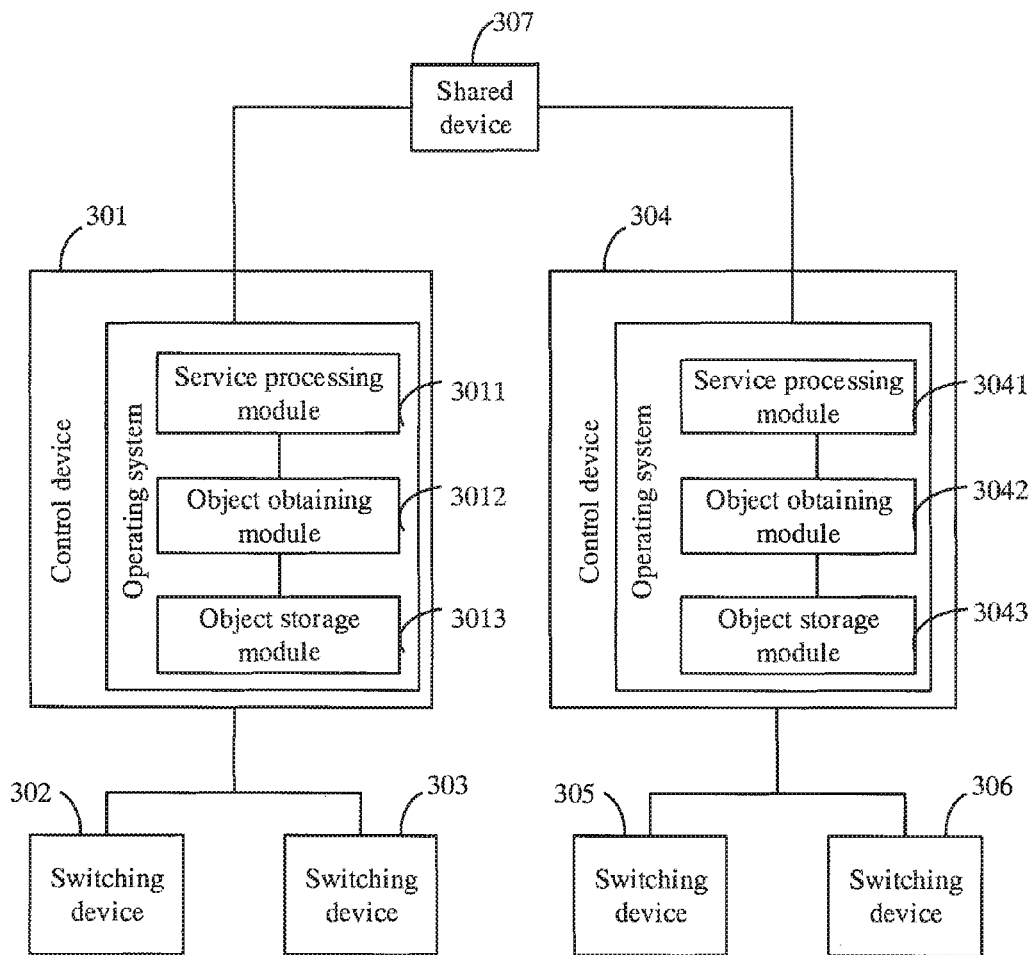


FIG. 3

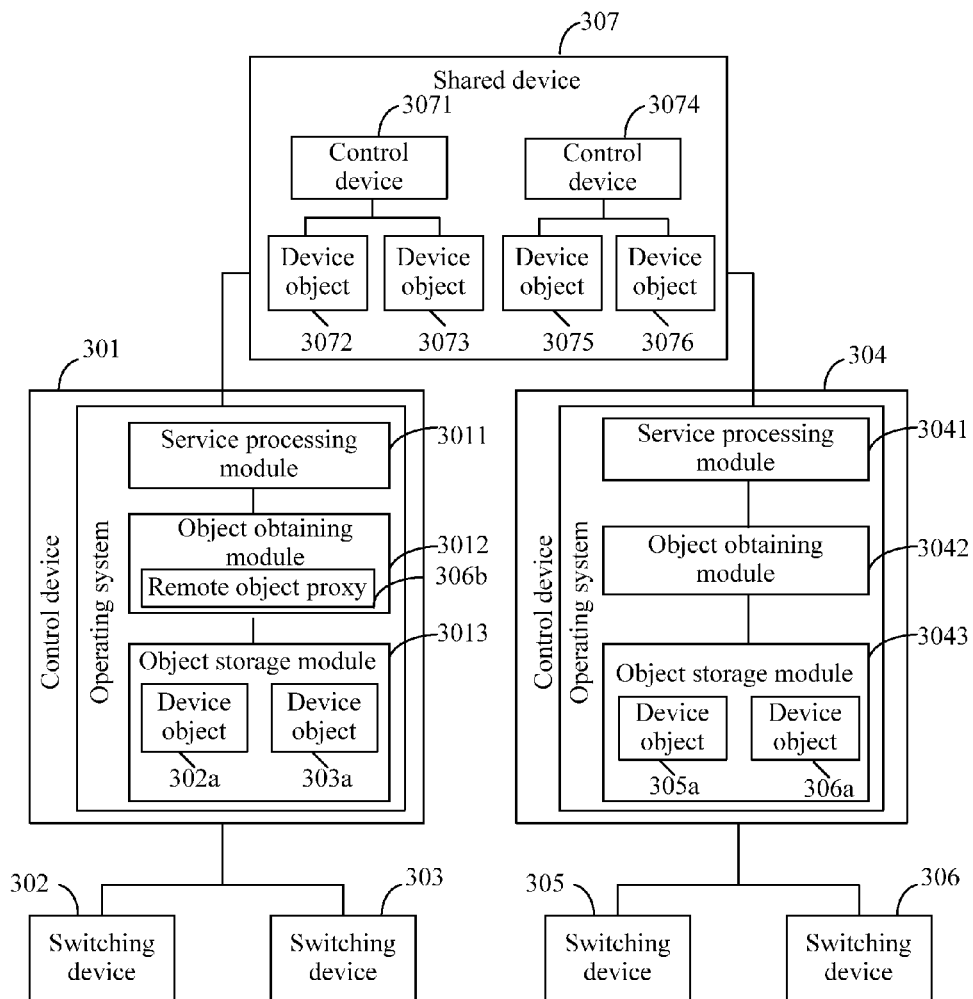


FIG. 4

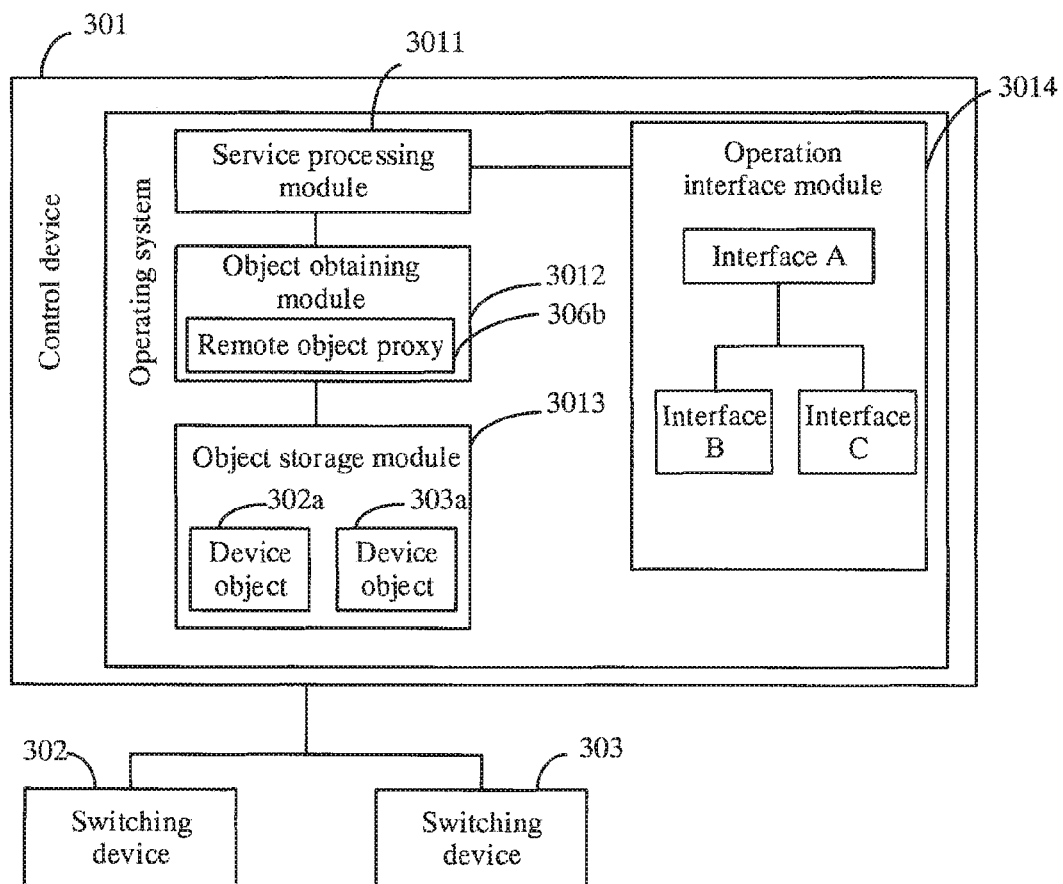


FIG. 5

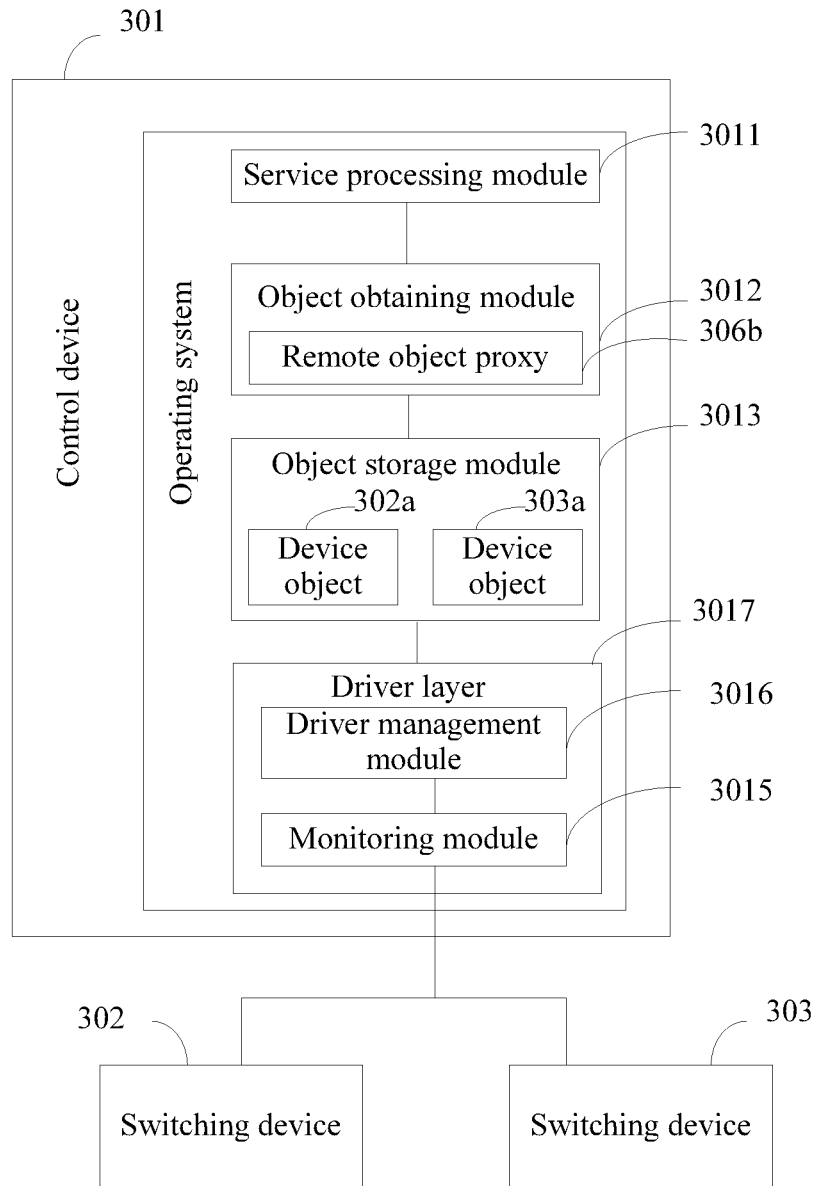


FIG. 6

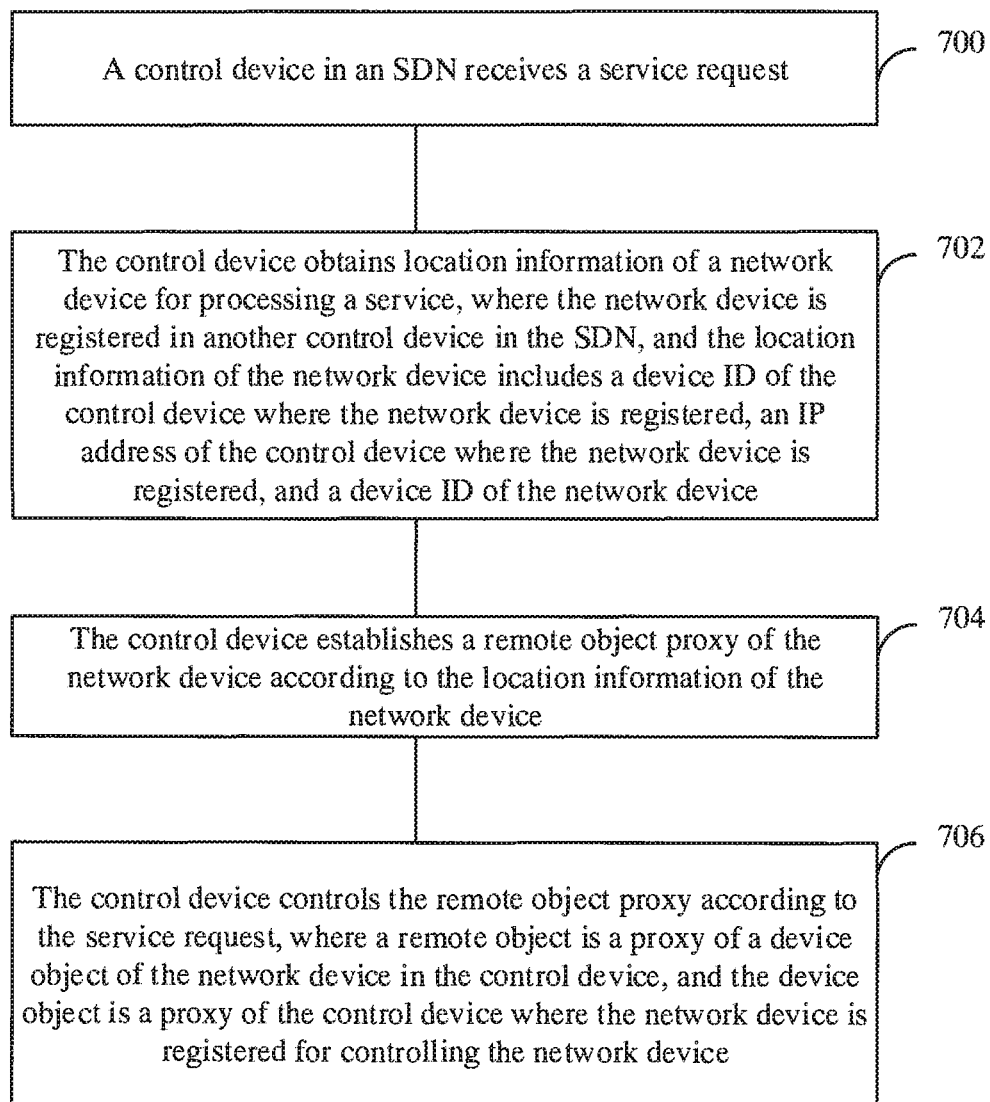


FIG. 7

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CONTROL METHOD, CONTROL DEVICE, AND PROCESSOR IN SOFTWARE DEFINED NETWORK

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 14/520,572, filed on Oct. 22, 2014, which is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/CN2013/088609, filed on Dec. 5, 2013. The afore-mentioned patent applications are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to the field of information technologies, and in particular, to a control method, a control device, and a processor in a software defined network (SDN).

BACKGROUND

An SDN is a new type of innovative network architecture, and a core technology OpenFlow thereof separates a control plane of a network device from a data plane, so as to implement flexible control over network traffic and provide a good platform for innovation of a core network and applications.

In an SDN network, each network device only retains a forwarding function, and all control functions are centralized in a controller. The SDN network includes a host, a forwarding device, and a controller. The host is a network endpoint, and is an initiator a terminator of communication; the forwarding device is responsible for sending a data packet, and has no independent control plane and shares a centralized control plane (that is, the controller in the SDN) with other devices; and the controller is a control center in the SDN, and is responsible for controlling and managing the forwarding device. When communication is performed between hosts, a communications channel is obtained by computation of the controller instead of negotiation of the forwarding device, and is delivered to each forwarding device.

The controller in the SDN implements control and management using software modules such as a software logic, a north bound interface, a Network Operating System (NOS), and a south bound interface. The control logic is a network application program or service, and interacts with the NOS using the North Bound Interface (NBI), so that the NOS controls the forwarding device through the South Bound Interface (SBI), thereby implementing functions, such as data forwarding, required by the control logic.

In the prior art, if a link is required to be established between two hosts that are registered in different controllers, it is necessary to use two switching devices, which are separately registered in different control devices, to perform an operation. When one controller needs to perform an operation for a host under the other control device, the operation is implemented using a broadcast mechanism such as subscription/notification, and all switching devices under the other control device may receive an event request and perform determining, resulting in low performance of service processing.

SUMMARY

Embodiments of the present invention provide a control method, a control device, and a processor in a SDN, which

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solve a problem in the prior art that performance for processing a service between network devices under different control devices is not high.

An embodiment of the present invention provides a control device in a SDN, where the control device includes an operating system running in the control device, and the operating system includes a service processing module, an object obtaining module, and an object storage module, where the object obtaining module is configured to obtain location information of a requested network device from the object storage module according to a request of the service processing module, where the network device is registered in another control device in the SDN; the service processing module is configured to establish a remote object proxy of the network device according to the location information of the network device, and control the network device using the remote object proxy, where the remote object proxy is a proxy of a device object of the network device in the control device, and the device object is a proxy of the control device where the network device is registered for controlling the network device; and the object storage module is configured to store the location information of the network device, where the location information of the network device includes a device identity (ID) of the control device where the network device is registered, an Internet Protocol (IP) address of the control device where the network device is registered, and a device ID of the network device.

Optionally, the object obtaining module is further configured to obtain remote object information of the network device according to the location information of the network device, and establish the remote object proxy of the network device using the remote object information of the network device, where the remote object information of the network device is information of performing remote control over the network device.

Optionally, the object storage module is further configured to share location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN, where the location information of the network device registered in the control device includes a device ID of the control device, an IP address of the control device, and a device ID of the network device registered in the control device.

Optionally, that the object storage module shares location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN includes sending, by the object storage module, the location information of the network device registered in the control device to a shared device in the SDN, where the shared device stores location information of network devices in the SDN.

Optionally, the shared device is an independent device, or is integrated in the control device, or is integrated in another control device in the SDN.

Optionally, the object storage module is further configured to obtain, from the shared device, location information of network devices registered in the other control devices in the SDN network, and store the location information into the object storage module.

Optionally, that the object storage module shares location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN includes broadcasting, by the object storage module, the location information of the network device registered in the control device to the other control devices in the SDN.

Optionally, the object storage module is further configured to obtain, from the other control devices in the SDN, location information of network devices registered in the

other control devices in the SDN network, and store the location information into the object storage module.

Optionally, the control device further includes an operation interface module, where the operation interface module is configured to create at least two operation interfaces for the device object of the network device registered in the control device, where the at least two operation interfaces have an inheritance relationship in operation content.

Optionally, the at least two operation interfaces created by the operation interface module include an operation interface applicable to at least two network devices registered in the control device, and an operation interface only applicable to one network device registered in the control device.

Optionally, the operation interfaces set operation manners for the network devices registered in the control device.

Optionally, the control device further includes a monitoring module and a driver management module, where the monitoring module is configured to receive a registration request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the registration request carries a feature code, and send the feature code to the driver management module, where the feature code is used to uniquely identify the network device that initiates the registration request; and the driver management module is configured to establish, according to the feature code, a mapping relationship between a driver of the network device registered in the control device and the feature code.

Optionally, the monitoring module is further configured to receive a connection request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the connection request carries the feature code; and the driver management module is further configured to obtain, according to the feature code carried in the connection request, the driver of the network device registered in the control device.

Optionally, the feature code includes at least one of a product number, a version number, or a producer number of the network device.

An embodiment of the present invention further provides a control method in a SDN, where the method includes receiving, by a control device in the SDN, a service request; obtaining, by the control device, location information of a network device for processing the service of the service request, where the network device is registered in another control device in the SDN, and the location information of the network device includes a device ID of the control device where the network device is registered, an IP address of the control device where the network device is registered, and a device ID of the network device; establishing, by the control device, a remote object proxy of the network device according to the location information of the network device; and controlling, by the control device, the remote object proxy according to the service request, where the remote object proxy is a proxy of a device object of the network device in the control device, and the device object is a proxy of the control device where the network device is registered for controlling the network device.

Optionally, the establishing a remote object proxy of the network device according to the location information of the network device includes obtaining remote object information of the network device according to the location information of the network device, and establishing the remote object proxy of the network device using the remote object information of the network device, where the remote object information of the network device is information of performing remote control over the network device.

Optionally, the method further includes sharing location information of a network device registered in the control

device with other control devices in the SDN, where the location information of the network device registered in the control device includes a device ID of the control device, an IP address of the control device, and a device ID of the network device registered in the control device.

Optionally, the sharing location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN includes sending the location information of the network device registered in the control device to a shared device in the SDN, where the shared device stores location information of network devices in the SDN.

Optionally, the shared device is an independent device, or is integrated in the control device, or is integrated in another control device in the SDN.

Optionally, the method further includes obtaining, from the shared device, location information of network devices registered in the other control devices in the SDN network, and storing the location information into an object storage module.

Optionally, the sharing location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN includes broadcasting the location information of the network device registered in the control device to the other control devices in the SDN.

Optionally, the method further includes obtaining, from the other control devices in the SDN, location information of network devices registered in the other control devices in the SDN network, and storing the location information into the object storage module.

Optionally, the method further includes creating at least two operation interfaces, where the at least two operation interfaces have an inheritance relationship in operation content, and the operation interfaces set operation manners for network devices registered in the control device.

Optionally, the at least two operation interfaces include an operation interface applicable to at least two network devices registered in the control device, and an operation interface only applicable to one network device registered in the control device.

Optionally, the method further includes setting a monitoring module in the control device, where the monitoring module receives a registration request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the registration request carries a feature code, and sending the feature code to a driver management module in the control device, where the feature code is used to uniquely identify the network device that initiates the registration request; and establishing, by the driver management module, according to the feature code, a mapping relationship between a driver of the network device registered in the control device and the feature code.

Optionally, the method further includes receiving, by the monitoring module, a connection request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the connection request carries the feature code; and obtaining, by the driver management module, according to the feature code carried in the connection request, the driver of the network device registered in the control device.

Optionally, the feature code includes at least one of a product number, a version number, or a producer number of the network device.

An embodiment of the present invention further provides a processor in a SDN, where the processor is located in the control device in the SDN, and the processor is configured to perform the following steps: receiving a service request; obtaining location information of a network device for processing a service, where the network device is registered

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in another control device in the SDN, and the location information of the network device includes a device ID of the control device where the network device is registered, an IP address of the control device where the network device is registered, and a device ID of the network device; establishing a remote object proxy of the network device according to the location information of the network device; and controlling the remote object proxy according to the service request, where the remote object proxy is a proxy of a device object of the network device in the control device, and the device object is a proxy of the control device where the network device is registered for controlling the network device.

Optionally, the establishing a remote object proxy of the network device according to the location information of the network device includes obtaining remote object information of the network device according to the location information of the network device, and establishing the remote object proxy of the network device using the remote object information of the network device, where the remote object information of the network device is information of performing remote control over the network device.

Optionally, the processor is further configured to perform the following step: sharing location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN, where the location information of the network device registered in the control device includes a device ID of the control device, an IP address of the control device, and a device ID of the network device registered in the control device.

Optionally, the sharing location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN includes sending the location information of the network device registered in the control device to a shared device in the SDN, where the shared device stores location information of network devices in the SDN.

Optionally, the shared device is an independent device, or is integrated in the control device, or is integrated in another control device in the SDN.

Optionally, the processor is further configured to perform the following step: obtaining, from the shared device, location information of network devices registered in the other control devices in the SDN network, and storing the location information into an object storage module.

Optionally, the sharing location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN includes broadcasting the location information of the network device registered in the control device to the other control devices in the SDN.

Optionally, the processor is further configured to perform the following step: obtaining, from the other control devices in the SDN, location information of network devices registered in the other control devices in the SDN network, and storing the location information into the object storage module.

Optionally, the processor is further configured to perform the following step: creating at least two operation interfaces, where the at least two operation interfaces have an inheritance relationship in operation content, and the operation interfaces set operation manners for network devices registered in the control device.

Optionally, the at least two operation interfaces include an operation interface applicable to at least two network devices registered in the control device, and an operation interface only applicable to one network device registered in the control device.

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Optionally, the processor is further configured to perform the following steps: receiving a registration request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the registration request carries a feature code, and the feature code is used to uniquely identify the network device that initiates the registration request; and establishing a mapping relationship between a driver of the network device registered in the control device and the feature code.

Optionally, the processor is further configured to perform the following steps: receiving a connection request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the connection request carries the feature code; and obtaining, according to the feature code carried in the connection request, the driver of the network device registered in the control device.

Optionally, the feature code includes at least one of a product number, a version number, or a producer number of the network device.

In the control method, the control device, and the processor in the SDN provided by the embodiments of the present invention, location information of a network device registered in another control device in the SDN is obtained, so that a remote object proxy of the network device can be established according to the location information, and the network device is controlled using the remote object proxy. Therefore, the network device that needs to be controlled or operated can be controlled directly, and it is unnecessary to send a control or operation request to device objects of all network devices in other control devices, thereby avoiding a step that the device objects of all the network devices in the other control devices receive a service control request and perform determining, and improving service processing performance.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

To describe the technical solutions in the embodiments of the present invention more clearly, the following briefly introduces the accompanying drawings required for describing the embodiments. The accompanying drawings in the following description show merely some embodiments of the present invention, and a person of ordinary skill in the art may still derive other drawings from these accompanying drawings without creative efforts.

FIG. 1 is a schematic structural diagram of a control device 101 in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a schematic structural diagram of a specific implementation of a control device 101 in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a schematic structural diagram of a specific implementation manner of a control device in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a schematic structural diagram of another specific implementation manner of a control device in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 5 is a schematic structural diagram of a further specific implementation manner of a control device in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 6 is a schematic structural diagram of another further specific implementation manner of a control device in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 7 is a schematic flowchart of a control method in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

The following clearly describes the technical solutions in the embodiments of the present invention with reference to

the accompanying drawings in the embodiments of the present invention. The described embodiments are a part rather than all of the embodiments of the present invention. All other embodiments obtained by a person of ordinary skill in the art based on the embodiments of the present invention without creative efforts shall fall within the protection scope of the present invention.

FIG. 1 is a schematic structural diagram of a control device **101** in a SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention. The control device **101** includes an operating system running in the control device, and the operating system includes a service processing module **1011**, an object obtaining module **1012**, and an object storage module **1013**.

The object obtaining module **1012** is configured to obtain location information of a requested network device from the object storage module **1013** according to a request of the service processing module **1011**, where the network device is registered in another control device in the SDN.

The service processing module **1011** is configured to establish a remote object proxy of the network device according to the location information of the network device, and control the network device using the remote object proxy, where the remote object proxy is a proxy of a device object of the network device in the control device, and the device object is a proxy of the control device where the network device is registered for controlling the network device.

The object storage module **1013** is configured to store the location information of the network device, where the location information of the network device includes a device ID of the control device where the network device is registered, an IP address of the control device where the network device is registered, and a device ID of the network device.

In the foregoing control device **101** in an SDN provided by the embodiment of the present invention, the object obtaining module **1012** obtains location information of a network device registered in another control device in the SDN, so that the service processing module **1011** can establish a remote object proxy of the network device according to the location information, and control the network device using the remote object proxy. The control device **101** may directly control the network device that needs to be controlled or operated, and it is unnecessary to send a control or operation request to device objects of all network devices in other control devices, thereby avoiding a step that the device objects of all the network devices in the other control devices receive a service control request and perform determining, and improving service processing performance.

As an optional implementation manner, the object obtaining module **1012** is further configured to obtain remote object information of the network device according to the location information of the network device, and establish the remote object proxy of the network device using the remote object information of the network device, where the remote object information of the network device is information of performing remote control over the network device. Further, the object obtaining module **1012** determines, according to the location information of the network device, the control device where the network device is registered, and can access space that stores a remote object of the network device, and establish the remote object proxy of the network device according to the remote object information of the network device obtained from the space that stores the remote object of the network device, to implement remote control over the device object of the network device.

As an optional implementation manner, the object storage module **1013** is further configured to share location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN, where the location information of the network device registered in the control device includes a device ID of the control device, an IP address of the control device, and a device ID of the network device registered in the control device.

That the object storage module **1013** shares location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN includes sending, by the object storage module, the location information of the network device registered in the control device to a shared device in the SDN, where the shared device stores location information of network devices in the SDN; or broadcasting, by the object storage module, the location information of the network device registered in the control device to the other control devices in the SDN.

The shared device may be an independent device, or be integrated in the control device, or be integrated in another control device in the SDN.

Correspondingly, the object storage module **1013** is further configured to obtain, from the shared device, location information of network devices registered in the other control devices in the SDN network, and store the location information into the object storage module; or receive location information of network devices broadcast by the other control devices in the SDN, obtain the location information of the network devices registered in other control devices in the SDN network, and store the location information into the object storage module.

The object storage module **1013** shares location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN, so that the other control devices in the SDN can obtain the location information of the network device registered in the control device, and so that the other control devices in the SDN can implement remote control over the network device registered in the control device according to the obtained location information. In addition, if the location information of the network device registered in the control device is sent to the shared device in the SDN, the control devices in the SDN can obtain the location information from the shared device when remote control is required, so that space for the object storage module **1013** to store the location information of the other control devices can be saved.

FIG. 2 is a schematic structural diagram of a specific implementation of a control device **101** in a SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention. As shown in FIG. 2, the control device **101** further includes an operation interface module **1014**.

The operation interface module **1014** is configured to create at least two operation interfaces for the device object of the network device registered in the control device, where the at least two operation interfaces have an inheritance relationship in operation content.

The at least two operation interfaces created by the operation interface module include an operation interface applicable to at least two network devices registered in the control device, and an operation interface only applicable to one network device registered in the control device. The operation interfaces set operation manners for the network devices registered in the control device.

At least two operation interfaces are set, and the operation interfaces have an inheritance relationship in operation content, a flexible configuration for the device object can be implemented, thereby avoiding a disadvantage that a method

set by a single operation interface satisfies device objects of all network devices but fails to play properties of specific network devices, or a disadvantage, caused by a single operation interface setting an operation interface for a specific network device, that an implementation is complex and an operation interface is required to be added when a network device is newly added.

As an optional implementation manner, the control device **101** further includes a monitoring module **1015** and a driver management module **1016**.

The monitoring module **1015** is configured to receive a registration request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the registration request carries a feature code, and send the feature code to the driver management module, where the feature code is used to uniquely identify the network device that initiates the registration request.

The driver management module **1016** is configured to establish, according to the feature code, a mapping relationship between a driver of the network device registered in the control device and the feature code.

Optionally, the monitoring module **1015** is further configured to receive a connection request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the connection request carries the feature code.

The driver management module **1016** is further configured to obtain, according to the feature code carried in the connection request, the driver of the network device registered in the control device.

The feature code may include at least one of a product number, a version number, or a producer number of the network device.

In the foregoing implementation manner, the monitoring module **1015** acts as a bridge between the network device and the driver management module **1016**, and different network devices are distinguished using feature codes that uniquely identify the network devices, thereby implementing effective control over the network device, and avoiding a problem of failing to distinguish specific network devices because of repeated port numbers when port numbers are used to distinguish different network devices.

A control device in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention is described below in detail using that the SDN includes two control devices and one shared device as an example, and that each control device controls two switching devices.

FIG. **3** is a schematic structural diagram of a specific implementation manner of a control device in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention. As shown in FIG. **3**, a control device **301** in the SDN is connected to a switching device **302** and a switching device **303**, a control device **304** is connected to a switching device **305** and a switching device **306**, and the control device **301** and the control device **304** are connected to a shared device **307** separately. An operating system of the control device **301** includes a service processing module **3011**, an object obtaining module **3012**, and an object storage module **3013**. An operating system of the control device **304** includes a service processing module **3041**, an object obtaining module **3042**, and an object storage module **3043**.

The shared device **307** may be accessed by the control device **301** and the control device **304**. That is, both the operating system running in the control device **301** and the operating system running in the control device **304** can access content in the shared device **307**.

The shared device **307** stores location information of network devices in the SDN where the shared device **307** is

located. In this embodiment, the shared device **307** stores location information of the switching device **302**, switching device **303**, switching device **305**, and switching device **306**. The shared device **307** usually stores the location information of the network devices in a specific data structure manner, and may store the location information of the switching devices in a structure manner of table or tree structure as long as device IDs of the control devices where the network devices are registered, IP addresses of the control devices where the network devices are registered, and device IDs of the network devices are clearly stored, so that the control device in the SDN can obtain location information of network devices registered in other control devices.

This embodiment is described using that the shared device **307** is an independent hardware device as an example, that the location information of the switching devices is stored in a manner of tree structure, and that the service processing module **3011** in the control device **301** needs to establish a link from the switching device **302** to the switching device **306**.

FIG. **4** is a schematic structural diagram of another specific implementation manner of a control device in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention. As shown in FIG. **4**, when the control device **301** is started, the object storage module **3013** thereof creates in the shared device **307** a node, that is, a control device **3071**, of the control device **301** in a tree data structure, where the control device **3071** represents the control device **301**, and the control device **3071** records a device ID and an IP address of the control device **301**.

When the switching device **302** and the switching device **303** are connected to the control device **301** for the first time, a driver layer in the control device **301** may create a device object separately for the switching device **302** and the switching device **303**, and store the device objects in a device object base of the control device **301**. The device object of the switching device is a proxy for the control device to control the switching device, and may be a proxy for the service processing module in the operating system of the control device to perform an operation for the switching object. For example, a device object **302a** is a proxy of the switching device **302** in the operating system of the control device **301**, a device object **303a** is a proxy of the switching device **303** in the operating system of the control device **301**, the operating system of the control device **301** controls the switching device **302** using the device object **302a**, and the operating system of the control device **301** controls the switching device **303** using the device object **303a**. The object storage module **3013** records the device object **302a** and the device object **303a**, and then creates in the shared device **307** a node, that is, a device object **3072**, of the device object **302a**, where the device object **3072** records a device ID of the switching device **302**; and creates a node, that is, a device object **3073**, of the device object **303a**, where the device object **3073** records a device ID of the switching device **303**.

In this way, tree structure sharing information corresponding to the control device **301**, the switching device **302**, and the switching device **303** is created in the shared device **307**, and the tree structure sharing information records the device ID and the IP address of the control device **301**, and device IDs of the switching device **302** and the switching device **303**, so that the control device **304** can obtain the foregoing information from the shared device **307**, and implement remote control over the switching device **302** or the switching device **303** under the control of the control device **301**.

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When the control device 304 is started, the object storage module 3043 thereof creates in the shared device 307 a node, that is, a control device 3074, of the control device 304 in a tree data structure, where the control device 3074 represents the control device 304, and the control device 3074 records a device ID and an IP address of the control device 304.

When the switching device 305 and the switching device 306 are connected to the control device 304 for the first time, a driver layer in the control device 304 may create a device object separately for the switching device 305 and the switching device 306, and store the device objects in a device object base of the control device 304. For example, a device object 305a is a proxy of the switching device 305 in the operating system of the control device 304, a device object 306a is a proxy of the switching device 306 in the operating system of the control device 304, the operating system of the control device 304 controls the switching device 305 using the device object 305a, and the operating system of the control device 304 controls the switching device 306 using the device object 306a. The object storage module 3043 records the device object 305a and the device object 306a, and then creates in the shared device 307 a node, that is, a device object 3075, of the device object 305a, where the device object 3075 records a device ID of the switching device 305; and creates a node, that is, a device object 3076, of the device object 306a, where the device object 3076 records a device ID of the switching device 306.

Tree structure sharing information corresponding to the control device 304, the switching device 305, and the switching device 306 is created in the shared device 307, and the tree structure sharing information records the device ID and the IP address of the control device 304, and device IDs of the switching device 305 and the switching device 306, so that the control device 301 can obtain the foregoing information from the shared device 307, and implement remote control over the switching device 305 or the switching device 306 under the control of the control device 304.

Because the service processing module 3011 needs to establish the link from the switching device 302 to the switching device 306, the service processing module 3011 may obtain the device ID of the switching device 302 and the device ID of the switching device 306. The service processing module 3011 needs to obtain the device object of the switching device 302 according to the device ID of the switching device 302, obtain the device object of the switching device 306 according to the device ID of the switching device 306, and separately implement control over the switching device 302 and control over the switching device 306 by performing an operation and control for the device object of the switching device 302 and the device object of the switching device 306.

The service processing module 3011 obtains the device object of the switching device 302 from the object obtaining module 3012 according to the device ID of the switching device 302. The object obtaining module 3012 requests the device object of the switching device 302 from the object storage module 3013 according to the device ID of the switching device 302. Because the switching device 302 is registered in the control device 301, the object storage module 3013 may store the device object 302a of the switching device 302. The object storage module 3013 obtains the device object 302a of the switching device 302 according to the device ID of the switching device 302, and returns the device object 302a to the object obtaining module 3012. The object obtaining module 3012 returns to the device object 302a to the service processing module 3011.

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The service processing module 3011 obtains the device object of the switching device 306 from the object obtaining module 3012 according to the device ID of the switching device 306. The object obtaining module 3012 requests the device object of the switching device 306 from the object storage module 3013 according to the device ID of the switching device 306. Because the switching device 306 is registered in the control device 304, the object storage module 3013 does not store the device object 306a of the switching device 306. The object storage module 3013 obtains location information of the switching device 306 from the shared device 307 according to the device ID of the switching device 306. Because the shared device stores the control device 3074 and the device object 3076, and the control device 3074 records the device ID and the IP address of the control device 304, the object storage module 3013 obtains the device ID and the IP address of the control device 304 according to the device ID of the switching device 306, and sends the device ID and the IP address of the control device 304 to the object obtaining module 3012.

It should be noted that, when creating the device object of the switching device 306, the object storage module 3043 may register a remote object of the switching device 306 in the object storage module 3043 (for example, a remote object service or remote method invocation (RMI) Server) for the switching device 306.

The object obtaining module 3012 initiates a remote object obtaining request (for example, accesses the RMI Server) according to the obtained device ID and IP address of the control device 304, so as to obtain remote object information of the switching device 306.

The object obtaining module 3012 establishes a remote object proxy of the switching device 306 according to the remote object information of the switching device 306. The service processing module 3011 can perform control or an operation for the switching device 306 using the remote object proxy, and a result of the control or operation may be transferred to the switching device 306 via a network, so as to implement control over the switching device 306.

After establishing the remote object proxy 306, the object obtaining module 3012 may directly perform an operation for the remote object proxy 306, and an operation manner thereof is the same as that of the service processing module 3011 for the device object of the switching device 302, except the result of the control or operation for the remote object proxy 306 is transferred to the switching device 306 via the network.

The foregoing embodiment is described using an example of establishing the remote object of the switching device 306, and for the control device 304 that further includes other controlled network devices, for example, a gateway or a router registered in the control device 304, the implementation manner of the network devices is similar to that of the switching device 306, and details are not described again.

The service processing module 3011 may control the device object of the switching device 302 through an operation interface. The interface is a set of methods, but only defines methods and does not make implementations. The device object may implement the interface, that is, the device object may implement the methods defined by the interface. In this way, the device may be controlled by setting the operation interface.

FIG. 5 is a schematic structural diagram of a further specific implementation manner of a control device in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention. As shown in FIG. 5, the control device 301 further includes an operation interface module 3014, which is configured to

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set at least two operation interfaces. For example, an interface A may be set, and the interface A includes operations supported by both the switching devices **302** and **303**, for example, creating a link. Both the switching device **302** and the switching device **303** support the operation of creating a link. In addition, an interface B is set for the switching device **302**, and the interface B inherits a method defined by the interface A, and adds a method only supported by the switching device **302**, for example, adding a virtual port. That is, the interface B includes methods of creating a link and adding a virtual port. Further, an interface C is set, and the interface C also inherits the method defined by the interface A, and implements a method only supported by the switching device **303**, for example, adding a Trunk port. That is, the interface C includes methods of creating a link and adding a Trunk.

In this way, the switching device **302** may implement the interface A and the interface B, and the switching device **303** may implement the interface A and the interface C. When the service processing module **3011** needs to perform an operation for the device object of the switching device **302**, the service processing module **3011** may call the interface A or the interface B, and execute the method set by the interface A or the interface B, so as to implement control over the switching device **302**. For example, when the link between the switching device **302** and the switching device **306** is being established, because the interface A sets the method for creating a link, the service processing module **3011** uses the interface A separately for the device object **302a** of the switching device **302** and the remote object proxy **306b** of the switching device **306** in establishment of the link between the switching device **302** and the switching device **306**, that is, implements the method set by the interface A, so as to implement control over the establishment of the link between the switching device **302** and the switching device **306**.

FIG. 6 is a schematic structural diagram of another further specific implementation manner of a control device in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention. As shown in FIG. 6, the operating system of the control device **301** further includes a driver layer **3017**, and the driver layer is connected to the object storage module. In the embodiment of the present invention, the driver layer **3017** includes a monitoring module **3015** and a driver management module **3016**.

The driver layer **3017** is responsible for communicating with devices and creating a device object of the network device that initiates registration. For example, when the switching device **302** registers with the control device **301**, the driver layer **3017** creates the device object **302a** for the switching device **302**, and when the switching device **303** registers with the control device **301**, the driver layer **3017** creates the device object **303a** for the switching device **303**. After finishing creating the device objects, the driver layer **3017** registers the created device objects in the object storage module **3013**.

The driver management module **3016** is configured to store driver registration information of the switching device **302** and the switching device **303**, and manage drivers of the switching device **302** and the switching device **303**, for example, loading, unloading, or starting the switching devices.

The monitoring module **3015**, as a centralized monitoring port, monitors a connection request of a network device. Request information sent by the switching device **302** or the switching device **303** may reach the monitoring module

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3015 first, and the monitoring module **3015** sends the request information to the driver management module.

Because port numbers of the switching device **302** and the switching device **303** may conflict, that is, a situation where two port numbers are the same may occur, the driver management module **3106** cannot identify specific switching devices. Therefore, when the switching device initiates registration, it is necessary to carry feature codes that can uniquely identify the switching devices. Using the feature codes, the driver management module **3106** can identify different switching devices, and can also distinguish different switching devices even though the port numbers of the switching devices are the same. For example, in a situation where the port numbers of the switching device **302** and the switching device **303** are the same, the switching device **302** and the switching device **303** can be identified using the feature codes. The port numbers are port numbers of connections of the switching devices, and the feature codes are information carried by the switching devices when initiating registration requests, and the information can uniquely identify devices that initiate the registration requests. A request sent during the connection carries the information that uniquely identifies the switching device.

For example, it is assumed that a port number of the switching device **302** is 6633, and a feature code carried by the switching device **302** when initiating a registration request is 0xFF32; and that a port number of the switching device **303** is 831, and a feature code carried by the switching device **303** when initiating a registration request is 0xBB12, driver information recorded in the driver management module **3106** after the switching device **302** and the switching device **303** are registered is shown in Table 1:

TABLE 1

Serial number	Port number	Feature code	Driver file	Protocol component
1	6633	0xFF32	Drivers/ovs.jar	Openflow.jar
2	831	0xBB12	Drivers/switch2.jar	Netconf.jar

The foregoing feature code may be formed by at least one of a product number, a version number, and a producer number of the device, and is used to uniquely identify the switching device.

After the switching device **302** is registered, and when a connection request is initiated, the connection request may carry the feature code 0xFF32. The monitoring module **3015** receives the connection request of the switching device **302**, and sends the connection request to the driver management module **3016**. The driver management module **3016** obtains a driver of the switching device **302** according to the feature code carried in the connection request. Therefore, the driver management module **3016** can uniquely determine the switching device **302**, and implement effective control of the operating system of the control device **301** over the switching device **302**. Similarly, the process of the switching device **303** when initiating a connection request is similar to that of the switching device **302**, and details are not described again.

FIG. 7 is a schematic flowchart of a control method in an SDN according to an embodiment of the present invention, where the method includes the following steps:

Step 700: A control device in an SDN receives a service request.

Step 702: The control device obtains location information of a network device for processing a service, where the

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network device is registered in another control device in the SDN, and the location information of the network device includes a device ID of the control device where the network device is registered, an IP address of the control device where the network device is registered, and a device ID of the network device.

Step 704: The control device establishes a remote object proxy of the network device according to the location information of the network device.

Step 706: The control device controls the remote object proxy according to the service request, where the remote object proxy is a proxy of a device object of the network device in the control device, and the device object is a proxy of the control device where the network device is registered for controlling the network device.

In the foregoing control method in the SDN provided by the embodiment of the present invention, location information of a network device registered in another control device in the SDN is obtained, so that a remote object proxy of the network device can be established according to the location information, and the network device is controlled using the remote object proxy. Using the foregoing method, the network device that needs to be controlled or operated and that is registered in another control device can be controlled directly, and it is unnecessary to send a control or operation request to device objects of all network devices in other control devices, thereby avoiding a step that the device objects of all the network devices in the other control devices receive a service control request and perform determining, and improving service processing performance.

As an optional implementation manner, the establishing a remote object proxy of the network device according to the location information of the network device includes obtaining remote object information of the network device according to the location information of the network device, and establishing the remote object proxy of the network device using the remote object information of the network device, where the remote object information of the network device is information of performing remote control over the network device. Further, the control device where the network device is registered may be determined according to the location information of the network device, and space that stores a remote object of the network device is accessible, and the remote object proxy of the network device is established according to the remote object information of the network device obtained from the space that stores the remote object of the network device, to implement remote control over the device object of the network device.

As an optional implementation manner, the method may further include sharing location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN, where the location information of the network device registered in the control device includes a device ID of the control device, an IP address of the control device, and a device ID of the network device registered in the control device.

The sharing location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN includes sending the location information of the network device registered in the control device to a shared device in the SDN, where the shared device stores location information of network devices in the SDN; or broadcasting the location information of the network device registered in the control device to the other control devices in the SDN. The shared device is an independent device, or is integrated in the control device, or is integrated in another control device in the SDN.

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Correspondingly, the method further includes obtaining, from the shared device, location information of network devices registered in the other control devices in the SDN network, and storing the location information into an object storage module; or receiving the location information broadcast by the other control devices in the SDN, obtaining location information of network devices registered in the other control devices in the SDN network, and storing the location information into the object storage module.

Location information of a network device registered in the control device is shared with other control devices in the SDN, so that the other control devices in the SDN can obtain the location information of the network device registered in the control device, and so that the other control devices in the SDN can implement remote control over the registered control device according to the obtained location information. In addition, if the location information of the network device registered in the control device is sent to a shared device in the SDN, the control device in the SDN can obtain the location information from the shared device when remote control is required, so that space for the control device to store location information of the other control devices can be saved.

As an optional implementation manner, the method further includes creating at least two operation interfaces, where the at least two operation interfaces have an inheritance relationship in operation content, and the operation interfaces set operation manners for network devices registered in the control device. The at least two operation interfaces include an operation interface applicable to at least two network devices registered in the control device, and an operation interface only applicable to one network device registered in the control device.

At least two operation interfaces are set, and the operation interfaces have an inheritance relationship in operation content, a flexible configuration for the device object can be implemented, thereby avoiding a disadvantage that a method set by a single operation interface satisfies device objects of all network devices but fails to play properties of specific network devices, or a disadvantage, caused by a single operation interface setting an operation interface for a specific network device, that an implementation is complex and an operation interface is required to be added when a network device is newly added.

As an optional implementation manner, the method further includes setting a monitoring module in the control device, where the monitoring module receives a registration request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the registration request carries a feature code, and sending the feature code to a driver management module in the control device, where the feature code is used to uniquely identify the network device that initiates the registration request; and establishing, by the driver management module, according to the feature code, a mapping relationship between a driver of the network device registered in the control device and the feature code.

In addition, the monitoring module may further receive a connection request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the connection request carries the feature code; and the driver management module obtains, according to the feature code carried in the connection request, the driver of the network device registered in the control device. The feature code includes at least one of a product number, a version number, or a producer number of the network device.

In the foregoing method, the monitoring module acts as a bridge between the network device and the driver manage-

ment module, and different network devices are distinguished using feature codes that uniquely identify the network devices, thereby implementing effective control over the network device, and avoiding a problem of failing to distinguish specific network devices because of repeated port numbers when port numbers are used to distinguish different network devices.

Reference may be made to the implementation manners of the control devices in the embodiments of FIG. 3 to FIG. 6 for the specific implementation manner of the foregoing method, and details are not described again.

An embodiment of the present invention further provides a processor in an SDN, where the processor is located in a control device in the SDN, and the processor is configured to perform the following steps: receiving a service request; obtaining location information of a network device for processing a service, where the network device is registered in another control device in the SDN, and the location information of the network device includes a device ID of the control device where the network device is registered, an IP address of the control device where the network device is registered, and a device ID of the network device; establishing a remote object proxy of the network device according to the location information of the network device; and controlling the remote object proxy according to the service request, where a remote object is a proxy of a device object of the network device in the control device, and the device object is a proxy of the control device where the network device is registered for controlling the network device.

In the processor in the SDN provided by the embodiment of the present invention, location information of a network device registered in another control device in the SDN is obtained, so that a remote object proxy of the network device can be established according to the location information, and the network device is controlled using the remote object proxy. Using the foregoing method, the network device that needs to be controlled or operated and that is registered in another control device can be controlled directly, and it is unnecessary to send a control or operation request to device objects of all network devices in other control devices, thereby avoiding a step that the device objects of all the network devices in the other control devices receive a service control request and perform determining, and improving service processing performance.

As an optional implementation manner, the establishing a remote object proxy of the network device according to the location information of the network device includes obtaining remote object information of the network device according to the location information of the network device, and establishing the remote object proxy of the network device using the remote object information of the network device, where the remote object information of the network device is information of performing remote control over the network device. Further, the control device where the network device is registered may be determined according to the location information of the network device, and space that stores a remote object of the network device is accessible, and the remote object proxy of the network device is established according to the remote object information of the network device obtained from the space that stores the remote object of the network device, to implement remote control over the device object of the network device.

As an optional implementation manner, the processor is further configured to perform the following step: sharing location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN, where the location information of the network device registered in

the control device includes a device ID of the control device, an IP address of the control device, and a device ID of the network device registered in the control device.

The sharing location information of a network device registered in the control device with other control devices in the SDN includes sending the location information of the network device registered in the control device to a shared device in the SDN, where the shared device stores location information of network devices in the SDN; or broadcasting the location information of the network device registered in the control device to the other control devices in the SDN. The shared device is an independent device, or is integrated in the control device, or is integrated in another control device in the SDN.

Correspondingly, the processor is further configured to process the following step: obtaining, from the shared device, location information of network devices registered in the other control devices in the SDN network, and storing the location information into an object storage module; or receiving the location information broadcast by the other control devices in the SDN, obtaining location information of network devices registered in the other control devices in the SDN network, and storing the location information into the object storage module.

Location information of a network device registered in the control device is shared with other control devices in the SDN, so that the other control devices in the SDN can obtain the location information of the network device registered in the control device, and so that the other control devices in the SDN can implement remote control over the registered control device according to the obtained location information. In addition, if the location information of the network device registered in the control device is sent to a shared device in the SDN, the control device in the SDN can obtain the location information from the shared device when remote control is required, so that space for the control device to store location information of the other control devices can be saved.

As an optional implementation manner, the processor is further configured to perform the following step: creating at least two operation interfaces, where the at least two operation interfaces have an inheritance relationship in operation content, and the operation interfaces set operation manners for network devices registered in the control device. The at least two operation interfaces include an operation interface applicable to at least two network devices registered in the control device, and an operation interface only applicable to one network device registered in the control device.

At least two operation interfaces are set, and the operation interfaces have an inheritance relationship in operation content, a flexible configuration for the device object can be implemented, thereby avoiding a disadvantage that a method set by a single operation interface satisfies device objects of all network devices but fails to play properties of specific network devices, or a disadvantage, caused by a single operation interface setting an operation interface for a specific network device, that an implementation is complex and an operation interface is required to be added when a network device is newly added.

As an optional implementation manner, the processor is further configured to perform the following steps: receiving a registration request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the registration request carries a feature code, and the feature code is used to uniquely identify the network device that initiates the registration request; establishing a mapping relationship between a driver of the network device registered in the

control device and the feature code; receiving a connection request initiated by the network device registered in the control device, where the connection request carries the feature code; and obtaining, according to the feature code carried in the connection request, the driver of the network device registered in the control device.

The feature code includes at least one of a product number, a version number, or a producer number of the network device.

The foregoing processor distinguishes different network devices using feature codes that uniquely identify the network devices, thereby implementing effective control over the network device, and avoiding a problem of failing to distinguish specific network devices because of repeated port numbers when port numbers are used to distinguish different network devices.

Reference may further be made to the implementation manners of the control devices in the embodiments of FIG. 3 to FIG. 6 for the specific implementation manner of the foregoing processor, and details are not described again.

An embodiment of the present invention further provides a computer program product, where the computer program product can perform the steps listed in the foregoing embodiment of the control method in an SDN, and implement a technical effect achieved by the foregoing control method.

A person of ordinary skill in the art may be aware that, in combination with the examples described in the embodiments disclosed in this specification, units and algorithm steps may be implemented by electronic hardware, computer software, or a combination thereof. To clearly describe the interchangeability between the hardware and the software, the foregoing has generally described compositions and steps of each example according to functions. Whether the functions are performed by hardware or software depends on particular applications and design constraint conditions of the technical solutions. A person skilled in the art may use different methods to implement the described functions for each particular application, but it should not be considered that the implementation goes beyond the scope of the present invention.

It may be clearly understood by a person skilled in the art that, for the purpose of convenient and brief description, for a detailed working process of the foregoing system, apparatus, and unit, reference may be made to a corresponding process in the foregoing method embodiments, and details are not described herein again.

In the several embodiments provided in the present application, it should be understood that the disclosed system, apparatus, and method may be implemented in other manners. For example, the described apparatus embodiment is merely exemplary. For example, the unit division is merely logical function division and may be other division in actual implementation. For example, a plurality of units or components may be combined or integrated into another system, or some features may be ignored or not performed. In addition, the displayed or discussed mutual couplings or direct couplings or communication connections may be implemented through some interfaces. The indirect couplings or communication connections between the apparatuses or units may be implemented in electronic, mechanical, or other forms.

The units described as separate parts may or may not be physically separate, and parts displayed as units may or may not be physical units, may be located in one position, or may be distributed on a plurality of network units. A part or all

of the units may be selected according to actual needs to achieve the objectives of the solutions of the embodiments of the present invention.

In addition, functional units in the embodiments of the present invention may be integrated into one processing unit, or each of the units may exist alone physically, or two or more units are integrated into one unit. The integrated unit may be implemented in a form of hardware, or may be implemented in a form of a software functional unit.

When the integrated unit is implemented in the form of a software functional unit and sold or used as an independent product, the integrated unit may be stored in a computer-readable storage medium. Based on such an understanding, the technical solutions of the present invention essentially, or the part contributing to the prior art, or all or a part of the technical solutions may be implemented in the form of a software product. The software product is stored in a storage medium and includes several instructions for instructing a computer device (which may be a personal computer, a server, a network device, or the like) to perform all or a part of the steps of the methods described in the embodiments of the present invention. The foregoing storage medium includes any medium that can store program code, such as a Universal Serial Bus (USB) flash drive, a removable hard disk, a read-only memory (ROM), a random access memory (RAM), a magnetic disk, or an optical disc.

The foregoing descriptions are merely specific embodiments of the present invention, but are not intended to limit the protection scope of the present invention. Any modification or replacement readily figured out by a person skilled in the art within the technical scope disclosed in the present invention shall fall within the protection scope of the present invention. Therefore, the protection scope of the present invention shall be subject to the protection scope of the claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A first control device in a software defined network (SDN)-based computerized content distribution system, wherein the SDN-based computerized content distribution system comprises at least two control devices, the first control device comprising:

a non-transitory memory configured to store computer executable program codes; and

a computer processor configured to execute the computer executable program codes, wherein executing the computer executable program codes causes the computer processor to be configured to:

obtain location information of a requested network device from a shared device, wherein the requested network device is registered in a second control device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system, wherein the shared device stores location information of each network device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system, and wherein the location information stored in the shared device is registered by a controlling control device of the network device;

establish, according to the location information of the requested network device, a remote object proxy of the requested network device in the first control device; and

control the requested network device using the remote object proxy established in the first control device, wherein the location information of the requested network device comprises a device identity (ID) of the second control device where the requested network device is registered, an Internet Protocol (IP) address of the

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second control device where the requested network device is registered, and a device ID of the requested network device.

2. The first control device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 1, wherein the computer processor is configured to:

initiate a remote object obtaining request according to the device ID of the requested network device and the IP address of the second control device;

obtain remote object information of the requested network device; and

establish the remote object proxy of the requested network device according to the remote object information of the requested network device.

3. The first control device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 1, wherein the computer processor is further configured to create at least two operation interfaces for network devices registered in the first control device, and wherein the at least two operation interfaces have an inheritance relationship in operation content.

4. The first control device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 3, wherein the at least two operation interfaces created by the computer processor comprise an operation interface applicable to at least two network devices registered in the first control device and an operation interface only applicable to one network device registered in the first control device.

5. The first control device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 4, wherein the operation interfaces set operation manners for the network devices registered in the first control device.

6. The first control device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 1, wherein the computer processor is further configured to:

receive a registration request initiated by a network device registered in the first control device, wherein the registration request carries a feature code, wherein the feature code is used to uniquely identify the network device that initiates the registration request; and establish, according to the feature code, a mapping relationship between a driver of the network device registered in the first control device and the feature code.

7. The first control device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 6, wherein the computer processor is further configured to:

receive a connection request initiated by the network device registered in the first control device, wherein the connection request carries the feature code; and obtain, according to the feature code carried in the connection request, the driver of the network device registered in the first control device.

8. The first control device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 6, wherein the feature code comprises at least one of a product number, a version number, or a producer number of the network device.

9. A control method in a software defined network (SDN)-based computerized content distribution system comprising:

receiving, by a first control device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system, a service request, wherein the first control device comprises: a non-transitory memory configured to store an operating system; and a processor configured to execute the operating system stored in the non-transitory memory;

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obtaining, by the first control device, location information of a requested network device for processing a service from a shared device, wherein the requested network device is registered in a second control device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system, wherein the shared device stores location information of each network device in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system, wherein the location information stored in the shared device is registered by a controlling control device of the network device, and wherein the location information of the requested network device comprises a device identity (ID) of the second control device where the requested network device is registered, an Internet Protocol (IP) address of the second control device where the requested network device is registered, and a device ID of the requested network device;

establishing, by the first control device, a remote object proxy of the requested network device in the first control device according to the location information of the requested network device; and

controlling, by the first control device, the requested network device using the remote object proxy established in the first control device.

10. The control method in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 9, wherein establishing the remote object proxy of the requested network device in the first control device according to the location information of the requested network device comprises:

initiating a remote object obtaining request according to the device ID of the requested network device and the IP address of the second control device;

obtaining remote object information of the requested network device; and

establishing the remote object proxy of the requested network device according to the remote object information of the requested network device.

11. The control method in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 9 further comprising creating at least two operation interfaces, wherein the at least two operation interfaces have an inheritance relationship in operation content, and wherein the operation interfaces set operation manners for network devices registered in the first control device.

12. The control method in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 11, wherein the at least two operation interfaces comprise an operation interface applicable to at least two network devices registered in the first control device and an operation interface only applicable to one network device registered in the first control device.

13. The control method in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 9 further comprising:

receiving a registration request initiated by a network device registered in the first control device, wherein the registration request carries a feature code, wherein the feature code is used to uniquely identify the network device that initiates the registration request; and

establishing, according to the feature code, a mapping relationship between a driver of the network device registered in the first control device and the feature code.

14. The control method in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim 13 further comprising:

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receiving, a connection request initiated by the network device registered in the first control device, wherein the connection request carries the feature code; and obtaining, according to the feature code carried in the connection request, the driver of the network device 5 registered in the first control device.

15. The control method in the SDN-based computerized content distribution system according to claim **13**, wherein the feature code comprises at least one of a product number, a version number, or a producer number of the network 10 device.

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